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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the application of:  
**Steven Curtis Zicker & Karen J. Wedekind**

Group No.: 1614

**TECH CENTER 1600/2900**

Serial No.: **Continuation of 09/978,132**

Examiner: Cybille Delacroix-Muirheid

Filed: **Concurrent herewith** 4/25/03

For: **Composition and Method**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents & Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 on this 25 day of April, 2003.

Cheryl A. Stefanelli

*Cheryl A. Stefanelli*  
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

The US Patent & Trademark Office  
Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

11/28/00

Sir:

**Preliminary Amendment**

Preliminary to examination of the subject application, it is kindly requested that the subject application be amended as set forth below.

**In the Claims**

Claim 1 - 11 (CANCELED)

Claim 12 - (Original) A method for inhibiting the onset of deterioration of the mental capacity of an aged companion pet which comprises feeding said pet in its adult years a sufficient amount of an antioxidant or mixture thereof, to accomplish this inhibition.

Claim 13 - (Original) The method in accordance with claim 12 wherein the pet is a canine.

Claim 14 - (Original) The method in accordance with claim 13 wherein the canine is 1 to 6 years.

Claim 15 - (Original) The method in accordance with claim 12 wherein the pet is a feline.

Claim 16 - (Original) The method in accordance with claim 15 wherein the feline is at least 1 to 6 years.